

CHURCH HISTORY

SEVEN GENERAL PERIODS

I. THE APOSTOLIC CHURCH (30-100AD)

From The Day of Pentecost – To the completion of the New Testament

- A. Ephesus – “desirable”
- B. Definition of the Church
 - 1. Consists of all believers who have been filled with the Holy Spirit with the sign evidence of speaking in tongues
“For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body.”
- I Cor. 12:13.
 - 2. The Church is called the body of Christ
“Gave Him to be the head over all things to the Church which is His body.” - Eph. 1:22-23
- C. The Church began on the Day of Pentecost – Acts 2:1-4
 - 1. Fifty days after the Resurrection
 - 2. Ten days after the Ascension
- D. The Church’s Enduement

1. They received power, after the Holy Ghost came upon them - Acts 1:8

2. The effects of the Holy Spirit

a. Illuminating - The Holy Spirit illuminated their minds to understand what they were not able to understand before - John 12:16, I Cor. 2:14

b. Empowering - The Holy Spirit empowered them to preach and to work miracles - Acts 4:22, 6:15

c. Abiding - The Holy Spirit came on the Day of Pentecost and will abide until the Church is Raptured (As long as the Church is here the Holy Spirit will be here in the manner in which He came on the Day of Pentecost) - Acts 2:39

E. The Church's original location

1. The Church began in the city of Jerusalem

2. Persecution would soon scatter them abroad

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Acts 8:1

F. The Church's membership

- was for
1. The original members were all Jews
 2. They didn't yet understand that The Gospel
the Gentiles - Acts 11:1-18

- G. The Church's Government
- Church
1. The twelve Apostles as a body governed the
 2. Peter was the spokesman - Acts 2:14, 38-42
 3. James became the presiding elder or pastor
of the church - Acts 12:17, 15:6-13, 21:18

- H. The Church's Doctrines
1. Jesus was the Messiah - Acts 2:36
 2. The Resurrection of Christ - Acts 2:30-32
 3. The Return of Christ - Acts 1:9-11, I Thess.
4:15-17

- I. The Church's defect
1. Lacked missionary vision
 2. Persecution sent them forth - Acts 8:1

- J. The Expanding Church
1. Stephen's preaching
 - a. One of the seven chosen to care for the
needs of the church - Acts 6:8

Ghost

1) A man full of faith and the Holy

among

2) Did great wonders and miracles
the people

b. The first Christian Martyr Acts 7:55-60

2. Saul's persecution

a. Saul was a leader in persecuting the
Christians - Acts 8:3

church

b. The persecution helped to expand the
- Acts 8:4

3. Philip's preaching

8:14-17

a. Established a church in Samaria - Acts

1) Recognized by the Apostles

2) The first church outside of Judaism

Joppa

b. He also founded churches in Gaza,
and Caesarea - Acts 8:40

4. Peter's preaching

a. Cornelius' house

10:44-48

b. Gentiles receive the Holy Ghost - Acts

- 5. Saul's conversion
 - a. On the road to Damascus
 - b. Became a powerful preacher to both
Jews and Gentiles – Acts 9:19-22
- K. The Church among the Gentiles
 - 1. The Council at Jerusalem (48 AD) – Acts
15:8-11
 - a. Called to settle the Gentile question
 - b. The Law not binding on the Gentiles
 - c. Salvation to all
 - 2. Leaders of the Church – Gal. 2:9
 - a. The Apostle Peter
 - 1) Spokesman among the Apostles
 - 2) Assisted James at the Jerusalem
Church
 - 3) History records Peter was
martyred in Rome about 67AD
 - b. The Apostle Paul – Rom. 11:13
 - 1) Called to be an Apostle – Rom. 1:1
 - 2) Preached to the Gentiles
 - c. The Apostle James – Acts 15: 13-20

- the
- 1) The younger brother of the Lord
 - 2) The head of the Jerusalem Church
 - 3) Recognized the Gentiles as part of Church

3. The Missionary Journeys of Paul

- a. Paul established churches at Philippi, Thessalonica, Berea, Athens and Corinth
- b. Formed the seven churches of Asia either directly or indirectly - Acts 19:10
- c. The churches were established though much suffering - II Cor. 11:23-28
While a prisoner at Rome he did his greatest work, from his prison he wrote Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians and Philemon
- d. The Apostle Paul was beheaded in the year AD 68

4. The Apostle John
 - a. Received the Revelation of Jesus Christ (100 AD)
 - b. Instructed the church
 - c. Taught Ignatius and Polycarp

- L. The Fall of Jerusalem (70 AD)
 1. The Jews broke out in rebellion (66 AD)
 2. The Roman General Titus destroyed the city
 - a. Fire caused the gold to melt between the bricks
 - b. Soldiers took apart the temple brick by brick to retrieve the gold
 - c. Jesus prophecy fulfilled - Mk. 13:1-2
 3. Sacrifices ceased
 4. God was done with Judaism